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WILLIAM FLETCHER HARDING

Wm. F. Harding, assistant editor in the Bureau of Entomology, died at his home in Washington on February 29, 1924. During January and February he had been obliged to remain at home much of the time owing to a bad cold and other complications, followed, during the last few days of February, by pneumonia, which resulted in his death.

Mr. Harding had been in the Bureau of Entomology since August 16, 1922, the date of his transfer from the Division of Publications, where, however, he had been continuously employed for nearly twenty years, his work covering a wide range of important editorial duties.

Receiving his early education in the public schools of Indianapolis, Ind., he was graduated from Indiana University with the degree of A. B., and later spent a year in graduate study as Junior Fellow in Economics at the University of Chicago, receiving the degree of Ph. M.

Before coming to the Department of Agriculture Mr. Harding had five years' experience as a practical printer, proof reader, and copy editor during intervals between his terms of school and college. He had also been a teacher of history and civics in Vincennes University, Vincennes, Ind., and in high schools in Indianapolis and Lafayette, Ind., and Ogden, Utah. With his brother, Samuel B. Harding, he was co-author of "The Story of England," a textbook for children in the graded schools.

Mr. Harding's broad culture and his long experience in editorial work made him extremely valuable to the Department and Bureau. His quiet and unassuming manner, sincere friendliness, and patience, thoroughness, and industry made him many friends and were an inspiration to his associates.--R.P.C.

FRUIT INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

A. L. Quaintance, Entomologist in Charge

J. L. King, who has been engaged in a search for parasites of the Japanese beetle in Japan, China, and Korea, has now been transferred to the Riverton, N. J., laboratory where he will be associated with Mr. L. B. Smith and will pay particular attention to the parasite phase of the Japanese beetle project.

C. P. Clausen, who has been in charge of the Japanese beetle parasite work in the Orient, has been in Washington for a temporary period and will sail from San Francisco March 4, for Kobe, Japan, to resume his field operations in connection with parasites of the Japanese beetle.

Fred E. Brooks, of the French Creek, W. Va., station, discussed insect pests before a meeting of the Wild Life League of West Virginia held at Clarksburg, W. Va., on the night of February 13.

The French Creek, W. Va., station desires for rearing purposes twigs severed by the hickory twig-girdler, Oncideres cinctulata, from as many localities as possible. Observations indicate that in localities north of West Virginia larvae may be looked for in twigs severed in 1922, as well as in 1923. Material from any locality will be greatly appreciated.

CEREAL AND FORAGE INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

G. A. Dean, Entomologist in Charge

On February 22, 1924, the degree of Doctor of Philosophy was conferred by George Washington University on Philip Luginbill, Entomologist in charge of the Columbia, S. C., laboratory.

Prof. George A. Dean, on February 5 and 6, visited the Carlisle, Pa., laboratory of Cereal and Forage Insect Investigations, and the Bureau of Plant Industry, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. On February 15 he was in New York attending the annual meeting of the Crop Protection Institute, at which he gave an address on the development of the poisoned bran bait, together with a summary of the grasshopper campaigns in the United States and Canada.

A shipment recently has been received at the Salt Lake City laboratory of European parasites of the alfalfa weevil for introduction into the infested area in this country. These were sent by Dr. W. R. Thompson, in charge of the European Corn Borer Parasite Laboratory in France.

TRUCK-CROP INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

J. E. Graf, Entomologist Acting in Charge

N. F. Howard, Entomologist in charge of the Birmingham, Ala., laboratory, visited Ohio during the early part of February and attended the Farmers' Week held by the Ohio State University at Columbus. He presented a paper on the Mexican bean beetle and discussed the proposed work in that State.

W. A. Thomas, Junior Entomologist, in charge of the Chadbourn, N. C., laboratory, has investigated the occurrence of the seed-corn maggot on potatoes in Pamlico County, N. C. During the past few years this insect has developed into a serious pest of seed potatoes.

R. E. Campbell, Entomologist in charge of the Alhambra, Calif., laboratory, reports a heavy infestation of the pea aphis on alfalfa in the vicinity

of Chino and San Bernardino, Calif. Experiments for the control of this insect with calcium cyanide are now being conducted in cooperation with C. M. Packard of Cereal and Forage Insect Investigations.

BEE CULTURE INVESTIGATIONS

E. F. Phillips, Apiculturist in Charge

E. F. Phillips attended the annual meeting of the Ohio State Beekeepers' Association held at the Ohio State University, Columbus, on February 7 and 8 and the following week attended a special series of meetings for beekeepers held by Purdue University, Lafayette, Ind. While in Lafayette Doctor Phillips spoke before the monthly meeting of the extension staff of the University.

J. I. Hambleton attended the two series of meetings held by the University of Illinois, one at Carbondale February 20 and 21 and the next at DeKalb February 22 and 23.

E. L. Schchrist attended a series of annual meetings of the State Beekeepers' Association in Tennessee, Arkansas, Kansas, and Missouri, beginning on February 1.

R. B. Willson, a cooperative appointee of the Bee Culture office, spoke the evening of February 27 over the radio broadcasting station WEAF, New York, on the uses of honey.

FOREST INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

F. C. Craighead, Entomologist in Charge

Dr. Craighead spent a few days in early February at the Appalachian Forest Experiment Station, Asheville, N. C. The need for entomological work in connection with the investigations of this station were very apparent, particularly in connection with studies of fire injury where a decision as to what part insects play in causing the death of scorched trees is essential.

Dr. T. E. Snyder spent the month of February in Panama and the Canal Zone where he established a series of cooperative experiments with several wood-using industries in testing the effects of various preservative treatments against termites. It has been found that results secured at East Falls Church, Va., can not be relied upon for these tropical species. J. Zetek, of the section of Fruit Insect Investigations, has given Dr. Snyder valuable assistance.

During the last week in February Dr. M. W. Blackman, Dr. S. A. Graham, and H. B. Peirson came to Washington to discuss plans for future investigations

on certain of the more important eastern forest insects. Dr. Blackman also spent a few days working with the scolytid collection. Dr. Graham will concentrate his attentions on the jack pine sawfly defoliations in Minnesota and Wisconsin this coming summer. It has developed that this infestation is much more extensive than was at first reported and in many places blocks of timber covering entire townships are dead. Mr. Peirson is planning to devote his attentions largely to the spruce budworm this summer. He is now working up some data to show the loss of yield on those trees which were not killed during the late epidemic.

Field activities are beginning in the West. J. M. Miller and his associates have been working on the San Joaquin Experimental Project, Calif., and already some trees have been treated.

Dr. H. E. Burke reports on a field trip to Pacific Grove, Calif., where the Monterey pines are being severely injured by a sawfly defoliator. He has sent in a summary of all the research problems under way in the West which will be compiled with that for the East to show the activities of the section as a whole.

F. P. Keen has been devoting much of his time recently to a summary of all the preceding experimental work of the section on the slash problem. It is hoped that this general statement will be ready for publication before long and that it will be of much value to foresters and lumbermen. It is surprising to note the uniformity of opinion of all the forest entomologists in the States on the entomological aspects of slash disposal. Apparently there is little evidence that this material acts as a serious menace from the insect standpoint.

J. E. Patterson has submitted a final report on the Antelope Creek Project in Oregon. This work has been continued for three years, and as logging operations accompanied control a great part of the treated material could be utilized. An epidemic infestation has been reduced to normal at very little cost and a great saving, illustrating in a striking way how effective a combination of control and lumbering is in reducing the bark-beetle menace.

J. C. Evenden reports results on a control project in lodgepole pine in the Helena National Forest, Mont. Ninety-four per cent reduction of infestation was secured, while on the check area a decided increase was noted.

R. A. St. George has been gathering data on the annual loss of crude forest products in the Southeastern States by means of questionnaires sent to all the lumber and manufacturing concerns. Many replies have been of unusual detail and interest and tend to indicate that these losses are considerably higher than previous estimates of the section indicated.

Dr. A. G. Boving from time to time has been translating the more important of Dr. Ivar Trägårdh's papers on forest entomology. Since these are

written in the Swedish language they are not readily accessible and the translations will be of great assistance.

William Middleton reports that correspondence on insects attacking shade trees and hardy shrubs has begun to assume spring proportions. Mr. Middleton would be very glad to hear from offices and field stations of the various branches of the Bureau concerning their general or particular observations on the comparative susceptibility to or immunity from insect attack of the various shade trees common in their section.

SOUTHERN FIELD-CROP INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

J. L. Webb, Entomologist Acting in Charge

Col. Clarence Cusley, Secretary and Director of Activities of the National Boll Weevil Control Association, visited the laboratory at Tallulah, La., on February 10.

J. N. Tenhet returned from the Clarksville Laboratory to Quincy, Fla., February 21.

L. L. Janes, of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, cooperating with T. E. Holloway and W. E. Haley of the Bureau of Entomology, estimates the normal loss to sugar cane in Louisiana due to the sugar-cane moth borer to be 570 pounds of sugar per acre. The loss for 1922 is estimated at 510 pounds, and for 1923 at 690 pounds. The borer is responsible for similar damage in Florida, Mississippi, and Texas, and it also seriously injures corn, broom corn, Kafir corn, etc.

N. G. Wessels, a student of the Government of the Union of South Africa, spent several weeks during January and February visiting the Bureau laboratories at Dallas, Uvalde, and Sonora, Tex., in connection with his study of Angora goat production in this country. He also spent a few days in Washington just prior to sailing for England. Mr. Wessels is a student of Dr. R. O. Wohl who is entomologist at the Grootfontein School of Agriculture, Middleburg, Cape, and visited this country some two years ago.

J. W. Ingram, who was in Washington at the beginning of the month, has returned to his station at Crowley, La.

STORED-PRODUCT INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

E. A. Back, Entomologist in Charge

E. A. Vaughan has been transferred from Thomasville, Ga., to general grain pest investigations at Orlando, Fla.

E. A. Back spent the month of October in the field.

R. T. Cotton spent several days during December at Orlando, Fla., on official business.

Mrs. Sibyl Betts Swegman, after a period of advanced training under Brödel, the well-known illustrator of Johns Hopkins, has been reappointed as artist.

J. C. Bridwell, formerly associated with this office and recently continuing his work upon the classification of Bruchidae, has accepted a position at Columbia University as Lecturer in Extension Entomology.

E. A. Back was subpoenaed to appear on February 18 and 19 as a witness in the Superior Court of Baltimore in connection with an explosion occurring on board a grain boat during August, 1923, following the application of carbon disulphide.

MISCELLANEOUS INVESTIGATIONS

(Items from the National Museum contributed by S. A. Rohwer)

The Museum has recently received 79 specimens of Palearctic cynipids in exchange with the Zoological Museum, Vienna, Austria. This exchange has been arranged through the activities of L. H. Weld and the kindness of Dr. Franz Maidl. Most of the material comes from the Mayr collection.

Carl Heinrich will leave Washington on March 2 for a month's trip to study types of Microlepidoptera and to consult various specialists. He expects to go to the American Museum of Natural History, the Museum of Comparative Zoology, the National Museum of Canada, and also to visit the collections of Dr. Barnes, Decatur, Ill., and Miss Braun at Cincinnati.

Included in the material recently received by the Museum for Dr. Dyar's examination were four new species of mosquitoes from Colombia. These were forwarded by Mr. Lawrence H. Dunn of the Rockefeller Institute, National Board of Health, who is at present working as an inspector in the campaign against the yellow fever epidemic in Colombia.

William A. Hoffman, from the School of Public Health, Johns Hopkins University, spent several days at the Museum in studying blood-sucking flies. Mr. Hoffman was especially interested in members of the genus *Culicoides* and related forms.

The National Museum has recently received its first lot of Diptera from Greenland. This material was received as an exchange from the Zoological Museum in Denmark, and represents 80 of the named flies from this island. Flies are the most abundant insects in the Far North, the order Diptera

being represented in Greenland by 133 species, while the Coleoptera are represented by 41, the Hymenoptera by 66, the Lepidoptera by 46, and Hemiptera by 12.

B. Preston Clark has recently forwarded to Mr. Schaus 10,000 specimens of Lepidoptera from the Philippines; 6,000 of these specimens represent butterflies and the remaining are moths. The material is being mounted and prepared for study and will ultimately be deposited in the collections of the Museum.

New species of mosquitoes from the United States, especially from the region east of the Rocky Mountains, are very rare. The Museum has recently received specimens of a new form from Brownsville, Tex. This furnishes the first new species east of the Rocky Mountains since the publication of the monograph on Culicidae in 1917.

Dr. M. M. Blackman of Syracuse, N. Y., is spending a week in the Museum studying the collection of Scolytidae. Dr. Blackman has previously had certain members of this group for study and is devoting a good bit of his time to an examination of the field and rearing notes concerning these species.

Prof. F. M. Root, of the School of Public Health, Johns Hopkins University, spent a day in the Museum consulting with Mr. Greene on characters of muscoid larvae. Dr. Root has recently published a short paper setting forth some of the characters of these larvae, and Mr. Greene has also spent considerable time on members of the same group. Dr. Root was also interested in the South American fleas and mosquitoes.

The Bureau recently received for identification a larva of Hypoderma lineatum Vill. from the Parshall, N. Dak., Public Health Laboratory, sent in by Dr. P. B. Carter, who stated that it had been taken from the elbow of a little girl five years of age. It had burrowed under the skin across the child's back. This maggot normally lives in cattle, burrowing into the skin in the same way.

Hushime Murayama is spending several weeks at the Division of Insects making drawings, chiefly of butterflies and moths, for the National Geographic Society.

LIBRARY

Mabel Colcord, Librarian

New Books

American Committee on Horticultural Nomenclature.

Standardized plant names; a catalogue of approved scientific and common names of plants in American commerce. Salem, Mass., by the Committee, 1923.

Bailey, L. H.

Manual of cultivated plants--a flora for the identification of the most common or significant species of plants grown in the continental United States and Canada for food, ornament, utility and general interest, both in the open and under glass. New York, The Macmillan Co., 1924.

Bernhard-Smith, A.

Poisonous plants of all countries... 2d ed. London, Baillière, Tindall & Cox, 1923. 112 p.

Butler, E. A.

A biology of the British Hemiptera-Heteroptera...London, H. F. & G. Witherby, 1923. 682 p., illus., pl. Bibliography, p. 603-619.

Chamberlin, J. C.

A systematic monograph of the Tachardia or lac insects (Coccidae). In Bulletin of Entomological Research, v. 14, pt. 2, p. 147-212, pl. 10-20, October, 1923.

Craighead, F. C.

North American cerambycid larvae--a classification and the biology of North American cerambycid larvae. Ottawa, F. A. Acland, 1923. 238 p., 14 pl. (Canada Dept. Agr. Bul. 27, new ser. (Technical))

Ford, Norma.

A comparative study of the abdominal musculature of orthopteroid insects. In Trans. Royal Canadian Institute, v. 14, p. 207-319, pl. 7-23, 1923. Bibliography, p. 310-312.

Frank, A. B.

Kambuch gegen die schadlinge unserer feldfruchte für praktische landwirte bearbeitet...Berlin, Verlagsbuchhandlung Paul Parey, 1897. 308 p., col. pls.

Emil Algot Holmgren 14/5 1866 - 22/10 1922, med portrait. In Kungl. Svenska Vetenskaps-akademiens Årsbok för ar 1923, Stockholm, p. 219-314. Forteckning over Emil Holmgrens skrifter, p. 310-314.

McArthur, J. M.

Insect study in grade schools--for the public schools of New Orleans. New Orleans, Orleans Parish School Board, 1924. 53 p., illus.

Schröder, Christoph.

Handbuch der entomologie. Lief 11-12 (bd. 3, bog. 42-53, p. 657-748). Jena. Fischer, 1924.

Séguy, E.

Histoire naturelle des moustiques de France... Paris, Paul Lechevalier, 1923. 225 p., illus. Index bibliographique, p. 205-214.

Sinéty, Robert de.

Recherches sur la biologie et l'anatomie des phasmes. Lierre, Imprimerie de Joseph van In & Cie, 1901. 164 p., 5 pl.

Thompson, W. R.

Recherches sur les diptères parasites: Les larves primaires des Techinidae du groupe des Echinomyiinae. In Annales des Epiphyties, v. 9, p. 137-201, illus., 1923.